

# HOUSING AUTHORITY of the County of Los Angeles

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Gloria Molina Mark Ridley-Thomas Zev Yaroslavsky Don Knabe Michael D. Antonovich Commissioners

Sean Rogan Executive Director

October 05, 2010

The Honorable Board of Commissioners Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles 383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration 500 West Temple Street Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Commissioners:

# ADOPTED

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS HOUSING AUTHORITY

3-H October 5, 2010

SACHI A. HAMAI EXECUTIVE OFFICER

# APPROVE THE ACCEPTANCE AND INCORPORATION OF COUNTY FUNDS FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA COOPERATIVE EXTENSION PROGRAM (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

#### **SUBJECT**

This letter recommends approval to accept and incorporate \$45,000 in County general funds into the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles' approved Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget for the University of California Cooperative Extension (Cooperative Extension) program.

#### IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

- 1. Authorize the Executive Director to execute all required documents necessary to accept and incorporate \$45,000 in County general funds, to support the Cooperative Extension program, into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget.
- 2. Find that the acceptance and incorporation of funds for the Cooperative Extension program is not subject to the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because the activities are not defined as a project under CEQA.

## PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The purpose of this action is to authorize the acceptance and incorporation of \$45,000 in County general funds into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget to support the Cooperative Extension's Food Stamp Nutrition Education program and to cover increased rental costs for the office space located at 335-337 East Avenue K-10 in the City of Lancaster, occupied by the Cooperative Extension program.

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### FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The increase for the Cooperative Extension program will be funded with \$45,000 in County general funds, which was included in the County's Supplemental Budget approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 28, 2010. These funds will be incorporated into the Housing Authority's approved Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget, as needed.

## FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

Cooperative Extension supports local farmers and residents by providing services related to urban gardens, horticulture, natural resource management, and environmental issues.

In 1993, the Board of Supervisors transferred the Cooperative Extension program from the Los Angeles County Department of Community and Senior Services to the Community Development Commission. Thereafter, the Housing Authority assumed responsibility for administering the program, which your Board approved, because of its close link in mission to the program. Since that time, the Cooperative Extension's budget has resided with the Housing Authority. For the past 17 years, the County and the Housing Authority have jointly supported the continuation of the Cooperative Extension program services.

The \$45,000 in County general funds will support the Food Stamp Nutrition Education Program (FSNEP), which provides free nutrition education classes to food-stamp eligible families and seniors. Participants who attend Cooperative Extension's FSNEP classes learn the importance of making affordable, healthy food choices. They are also taught how to read a food label, prepare and store food safely to prevent food borne illness, and stretch their food dollar. Matching funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, via the University of California, Davis. The County general funds will support 50% of a full-time nutrition educator, and the USDA funds will support the other 50% of this position.

On February 2, 2010, the Board of Commissioners approved a sublease agreement between the Housing Authority and the County which enabled the Housing Authority to lease approximately 1,035 square feet of office space located at 335-337 East Avenue K-10 in the City of Lancaster, for use by the Cooperative Extension program. The move was requested by the Fifth District and resulted in increased rental costs of \$15,000 annually.

On September 28, 2010, the Board of Supervisors approved the County's Supplemental Budget which included the request to use \$45,000 in County general funds to support the FSNEP and to cover the increased rental costs.

The Housing Commission approved the acceptance and incorporation of these funds at its September 22, 2010 meeting.

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

This action is exempt from the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act pursuant to 24 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 58, Section 58.34 (a)(3), because it involves administrative activities that will not have a physical impact on or result in any physical changes to the environment. The action is also not subject to the provisions of CEQA pursuant to State CEQA Guidelines

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15060(c)(3) and 15378, because it is not defined as a project under CEQA and does not have the potential for causing a significant effect on the environment.

# **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The acceptance and incorporation of funds will enable the Housing Authority to provide nutrition education to families and seniors in Los Angeles County and cover the cost of office space for the Cooperative Extension program.

Respectfully submitted,

**SEAN ROGAN** 

**Executive Director** 

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